

AMDI3-180
4/11/07

Jessie White

From: Jim Scholl [jim_scholl@dot.state.ak.us]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 3:04 PM
To: 'Jessie White'
Subject: FW: comments on the STIP project

Attachments: STIP comment 4-6-07.pdf



STIP comment
4-6-07.pdf (78 KB...

Please log this in as an on-time comment. Thanks!

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike Seidl [mailto:mike_seidl@dnr.state.ak.us]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 8:20 AM
To: DOT_STIP@dot.state.ak.us
Cc: 'Anna Plager'
Subject: comments on the STIP project

Attached are STIP comments for the Northern Region. Thanks for your consideration.

-----Original Message-----

From: Anna Plager [mailto:anna_plager@dnr.state.ak.us]
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2007 5:50 PM
To: Judy Chapman
Cc: Tiff Vincent; Mike Seidl
Subject: comments on the STIP project

Judy,
Attached is a scan of the Citizen Advisory Board's comments on the STIP project MP 24-56 Chena Hot Springs Road. I faxed it to you earlier, but just learned that the fax transmission failed, so I'm attaching it to this email. I'd appreciate it if you can be sure it gets into the STIP public comment record. Scott Rupp, the advisory board chair is out of town this week and asked that I get the letter to you.

Thank you for your consideration,
Anna

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Anna Plager, Park Superintendent
Alaska State Parks, Northern Area
3700 Airport Way, Fairbanks, AK 99709
phone: 907-451-2698 fax: 907-451-2754



Northern Area Alaska State Parks Citizen Advisory Board

3700 Airport Way Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-4613 (907) 451-2695

April 6, 2007

Ms. Judy Chapman, Fairbanks Area Planner
Dept. of Transportation & Public Facilities
Fax: 907-451-2333

RE: project # STP-0650(25)/61425 Chena Hot Springs Road MP. 24-56 Rehabilitation

Dear Ms. Chapman,

Thank you for your response of 2/23/07 to our concerns regarding the need for pedestrian improvements to the Chena Hot Springs Road adjacent to the Tors Trailhead parking area. We are pleased that you agree that the pedestrian situation at that location is less than ideal and that you have considered several alternative options to improve the situation. We fully agree with your recommendation as to the best corrective option – installing crash attenuating guardrail with openings to allow foot traffic to pass through the guardrail at the existing crossing. We believe this fix would greatly improve the situation and be best embraced by the trail users who will then use the pedestrian bridge instead of walking in the roadway. The Northern Area State Parks Citizen Advisory Board encourages you to pursue this fix as part of the Chena Hot Springs Road MP 24-56 Project.

However, we are disappointed that this project has been delayed. We feel this project as a whole is important to the Chena River Recreation Area and that delays impact more than just the specific safety issue discussed here. Many accidents occur along this stretch of the highway that the rangers attend to without adding to the list of official accidents. Several times this past year, motorists experienced flat tires and ended up in the ditch after hitting one of the many large potholes at highway speeds. The road is not safe without this project.

We encourage you to explore other possible options that might allow the proposed fix at the Tors Trailhead parking area to move forward independently of the project. If there is anything the Board can do to help identify and secure other funding options please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Scott Rupp
Chair
Northern Area State Parks Citizen Advisory Board